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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper . . . Seventieth Year of Continuous Publication

Date	BOONE WEATHER				Prec.
	High	Low	8 a.m.	6 p.m.	
Aug. 21	73	42	60		
Aug. 22	73	42	60		tr.
Aug. 23	74	47	61		
Aug. 24	73	50	62		
Aug. 25	73	44	60		
Aug. 26	70	50	58		
Aug. 27	71	50	61		.20

VOLUME LXX.—NO. 9

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1957

FOURTEEN PAGES—TWO SECTIONS

Gus Grimes Is Absolved Of Blame In Fatal Truck Crash

Mrs. Cloyd Is Victim Of Mid Town Accident

A coroner's jury Friday absolved Gus Grimes, Boone Negro, of blame in a chain-reaction truck-auto crash in downtown Boone Wednesday which took the life of a pedestrian and sent two other persons to the hospital.

Killed instantly was Mrs. Hugh H. Cloyd, 67, of Daytona Beach, Fla., when she was struck by one of the cars and then a wheel of a truck driven by Grimes passed over her body.

Mrs. Guy Cain of Boone and her daughter, Alice Cain were injured when the truck crashed into the rear of a car driven by J. W. Greene of Blowing Rock, causing it to hit Mrs. Cain's car, which in turn struck Mrs. Cloyd.

Alice Cain was treated at Watauga Hospital and released. Mrs. Cain was admitted for observation and released Tuesday of this week. Their injuries were not serious, hospital sources reported.

Testimony at the inquest Friday revealed the following chain of events leading to the fatal pile-up:

Grimes, 40, driving a truck owned by Goodnight Brothers, was returning to Boone on Highway 421 west with a load of cabbage when the brakes failed on a hill about a block from the business section. Grimes said he was traveling 35-40 miles per hour when the brakes gave way and he was powerless to slow the truck's progress as it continued to pick up speed on the downgrade. His speed was too great by the time he realized he was in trouble for him to turn into a side street or shift into a lower gear, Grimes said.

The truck hurtled down King Street, sideswiped a car driven by Melvin Hodges of Vilas at the Water Street traffic light, and crashed into heavy traffic in the heart of the business section at a speed of 55-60 m. p. h., according to eye witnesses, after running the stoplight at the corner of King and Depot Streets.

The truck crashed into the rear of a car driven by J. W. Greene. Greene's car jumped forward 194 feet from the impact, said Police Chief Glenn Richardson, and struck Mrs. Cain's car, which traveled 55 feet and hit Mrs. Cloyd, who was almost across the street near the Grand Boulevard intersection. Mrs. Cloyd was knocked down and then run over by a wheel of the truck before it finally came to a stop. The Cain car also struck a car headed in the opposite direction driven by Joseph Greene of Deep Gap.

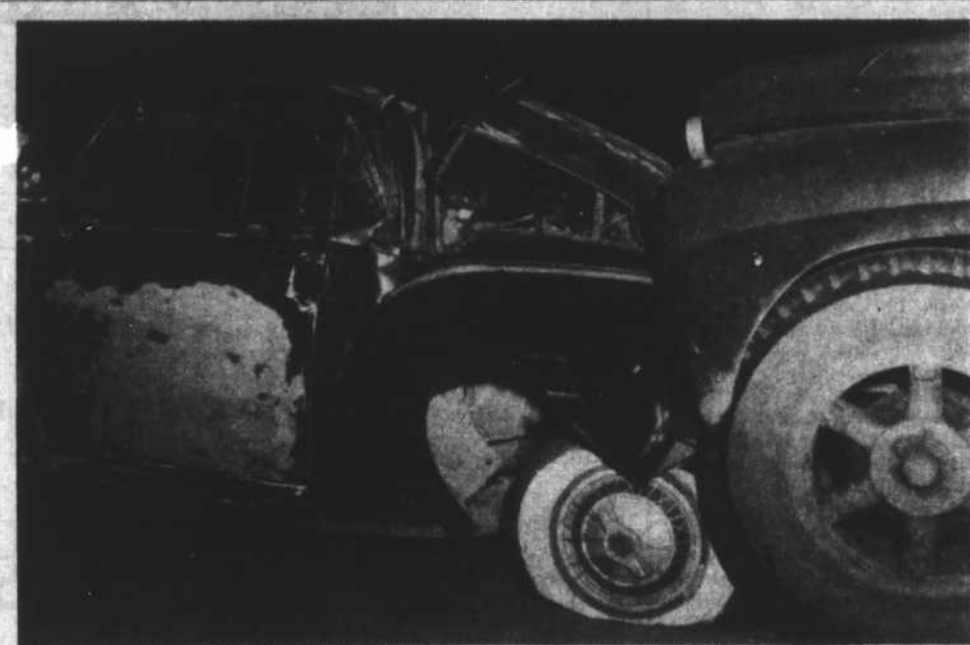
Garage men confirmed Grimes' story of brake failure, stating that the brake gear in the front wheel contained no fluid when they inspected it. Levere Fox, service station operator, said Grimes stopped at his station on the way out of town a short time prior to the accident and his brakes appeared to be in good working order at that time.

The coroner's jury, impaneled by Coroner Richard E. Kelley, deliberated about 25 minutes and returned a verdict of "not guilty of personal neglect," adding that Grimes "apparently did all he could, according to testimony of the witnesses." Grimes had been held on a charge of involuntary manslaughter.

Funeral services for Mrs. Cloyd were held Friday at Jonesboro, Tenn., and burial was in Maple Lawn Cemetery there. Mr. and Mrs. Cloyd were natives of Jonesboro.

She is survived by her husband; a brother, H. C. Saylor of Jonesboro; and five sisters, Mrs. Dean Walker, Mrs. Dewey Kefauver and Miss Martha Saylor of Jonesboro, Mrs. M. B. Thomas of Sikeston, Mo., and Mrs. Carl W. Johnson of Alberta, Canada.

The United States is the world's largest producer of soybeans, a crop that until recent years was largely grown in the Orient.



MID-TOWN WRECK.—Car shown was driven by J. W. Greene when it was rammed from behind by a truck driven by Gus Grimes, negro. Mrs. Hugh H. Cloyd, pedestrian, of Daytona Beach, Fla., was killed in the accident which involved five vehicles. Evidence brought out at a coroner's hearing showed the Greene car traveled 194 feet from point of impact before it halted with the truck resting on its rear. The wreck happened late last Wednesday afternoon on King Street at Grand Boulevard.

McLendon Reviews Course Of Education As 241 Graduate

By EARLEEN G. PRITCHETT

Wataugans Give Nickels Proposal Heavy Majority

Watauga county farmers voted overwhelmingly to continue the Nickels for Know-How program, in the Statewide election held last Friday.

The vote stood 371 to 21.

As a result of the voting in the State the program will be continued for three years. The tabulation of the vote in Watauga follows:

	For	Against
Bald Mountain	10	0
Beaver Dam	44	0
Blowing Rock	25	1
Blue Ridge	22	1
Brushy Fork	19	1
Boone	36	0
Cove Creek	61	1
Elk	19	0
Laurel Creek	20	0
Meat Camp	10	1
New River	19	14
North Fork	23	0
Shawneechaw	14	0
Stony Fork	7	2
Watauga	42	0
TOTAL	371	21

Dr. Reese Is Named Head Polio Chapter

Dr. Gene Reese of Boone has been named chairman of the Watauga Chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, it was announced this week by Robert L. Jones of Charlotte, state representative of the National Foundation. Dr. Reese succeeds Howard Cottrell of Boone who has served in this capacity during the last year.

Dr. Reese, a dentist, was president of the Boone Junior Chamber of Commerce in 1956, and has been active in a variety of other community and civic affairs.

In accepting the post, Dr. Reese announced that the Watauga chapter will participate in a country-wide survey to discover the current rehabilitation needs of all past polio patients. He said the survey in Watauga county will be under the direction of Mrs. Ina Spencer of Boone.

The local survey is a part of a nationwide project by the National Foundation to compile a roster of polio cases of all ages and degrees (Continued on page three)

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Michael Ward Is Dead At Age 92

Michael Anderson Ward, one of the county's oldest citizens, and a resident of Sugar Grove, died at Watauga Hospital last Friday.

He was 92 years old. Funeral services were held Sunday at 3 o'clock at the Antioch Baptist Church. Rev. W. C. Payne, Rev. Carl Wilson and Tom Ward were in charge of the services. Burial was in the Ward cemetery.

Survivors include one son, R. M. Ward of Sugar Grove; one daughter, Mrs. E. M. Presnell of Glade Valley; two brothers, Monroe and Parks Ward of Beech Creek, and one sister, Mrs. George Tester, Valle Crucis.

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4,000 Watauga Boys, Girls Resume Trek To Schools

All But Blowing Rock Will Open Term Thursday

It's back to school time in Watauga county for more than four thousand boys and girls, all the institutions in the county being scheduled to open Thursday, August 29, with one exception.

Due to the large number of students employed in Blowing Rock during the Labor Day weekend, the Blowing Rock School will not open until Tuesday, September 3. Students at Blowing Rock School will be required to attend school on Saturday during the first month to make up the days lost due to postponement of the opening date.

Drivers Check Out Buses

Jack Harrison, chief mechanic for the county school, reports that school buses are in readiness for the opening, and drivers began to report to the local garage to check out their buses on Monday of this week. In accordance with a pre-arranged schedule, buses will be checked out by schools on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday for all schools opening Thursday. Blowing Rock drivers are scheduled to receive buses on Monday of next week.

Principals Busily Engaged

Principals of all schools have been busy during the past two weeks making the necessary preparations for the opening date. Class schedules have been made, and teachers and students have been assigned to the various classrooms. New books and instructional supplies have been issued to the various schools. Principals have assigned drivers to all buses and have made final surveys of all bus routes.

In accordance with the policy of the Board of Education to keep students and parents informed regarding the operation of the schools, principals have prepared detailed letters to parents explaining the breakdown of money required for registration as well as other policies to be observed by the schools during the current year.

To Abide By Age Laws

A concentrated effort will be made this year to abide by the state law relative to the entrance age requirements for students entering school for the first time. Only those students who will be six years of age on or before midnight, October 16, will be eligible to enroll in the first grade. In some instances teachers require a (Continued on page six)

W. R. Gragg Will Go To Annapolis

GASTONIA, N. C.—A Gastonia sailor, William Roy Gragg, 17, has been appointed to the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., according to the local Navy Recruiting office.

Gragg won the appointment in competitive examinations with thousands of other sailors. He has been assigned to the Navy Prep School at Bainbridge, Md., for six months training before entering the Academy.

James Weston, local recruiter, said Gragg made one of the highest scores ever recorded on the entrance test when he joined the Navy several months ago through the local office.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Victor M. Gragg of 1216 Mountain Street, young Gragg has been taking basic training at Bainbridge, Md. His father is a master mechanic at the Mutual Mill.

He attended Appalachian High School in Boone before his family moved to Gastonia recently. He enlisted in Gastonia and was sworn into the Navy in Raleigh. He is a member of the Lutheran Church and sang in the church choir.



FLOWER SCHOOL PERSONALITIES.—Shown after a class on color arranging and use of the color wheel, are, left to right: Mrs. Edward Lee Alexander, instructor, of Newport News, Va.; Mrs. B. W. Stallings, general chairman of the Garden School committee for the western area, of Boone; Mrs. Paul Kincaid and Eugene Starnes, co-chairmen of the State Garden School committee; and Miss Louise Ballard, president of Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc. The school was held in Boone last Monday and Tuesday, and was attended by more than 100 persons interested in flower arranging and horticulture.

Acquisition Of Golf Course Property Seems Within Reach

The acquisition of 257 acres of land for a golf course and home-site development appeared to be within reach Monday night when it was reported that \$81,000 had been received in signed pledges, and commitments totaling another \$45,000 were expected to be secured within the next few days.

A stock company to be called Boone Developments, Inc., is being formed by the Boone Country Club to operate independently in buying and developing the property.

The land, located near Deerfield Road between Boone and Blowing Rock, will cost between \$80,000 and \$100,000, and another \$80,000 will be needed to construct a 130 to 140-acre golf course. The remaining 100 acres or more will be used for the development of home sites. Other investors are being sought, with returns based on the amount of each stockholder's investment.

Dr. L. H. Owsley, president of the Boone Country Club, appointed a nominating committee Monday night consisting of Alfred T. Adams, Jerry Coe, and Horace Dowling, and called a stockholders meeting for Monday night, September 9, for the purpose of electing officers for Boone Developments, Inc., based on the committee's recommendations.

Attorney Wade E. Brown, chairman of the bylaws committee, announced (Continued on page three)

Scouts Making Plans For Annual Camporee

Watauga Scouts made final preparation this week for the camporee at Camp Joy Friday and Saturday.

A group of leaders gathered Monday night and outlined the events for the two-day outing, according to Woodrow Richardson, chairman of the Watauga District.

Father Of Jerry Coe Dies In W. Va.

George F. Coe, father of Jerry Coe of Boone, died last Friday at a Chester, W. Va. hospital, where he had been a patient for a week. He was 81 years old. He had been in poor health for several years, and a recurring stroke of paralysis was given as the cause of his death.

He had been retired for a number of years from work with the Sun Oil Company.

Funeral services were held Monday at the First Church of Christ in Chester and burial was in Hillcrest cemetery in that city.

Surviving are one son and two daughters: Jerry Coe, of Boone; Mrs. Earl Asher, Mrs. Herbert Asher, Chester, W. Va. There are four grandchildren.

Mr. Jerry Coe and son Johnny attended the funeral.

Plans call for the Scouts to arrive at the camp between the hours of 3 and 3:30 p. m. Friday. Inspection will follow, with games being played until supper time at 6 o'clock.

At 8 o'clock a big camp fire will be built, and the Scouts will present skits, sing songs, and listen to stories. Usually the camp fire is the highlight of all jam-

(Continued on page three Second Section)

United Fund Group To Meet

Dr. Lawrence Owsley announces a meeting of the Budget and Admissions Committee of Watauga County United Fund Friday August 30 at 7:30 p. m. in the dining room of the Watauga Hospital.

This is an important meeting and Dr. Owsley urges all committee members to attend.

District Health Officer Gives Valuable Data On Asiatic Flu

Dr. Mary B. H. Michal, District Health Officer, attended a meeting of local health officers at the State Board of Health in Raleigh Friday, called by the State Health Officer, Dr. J. W. R. Norton.

Among the matters discussed was the latest information on the Asiatic Flu Vaccine. This information was given the group by Dr. Fred T. Ford, Chief of the Division of Epidemiology. It was pointed out that there are increasing numbers of cases of Asiatic Flu occurring in the United States and several cases have already been reported in North Carolina.

The typical course of the epidemic is as follows: only about 15-20% of the population has been affected in epidemic areas, depending upon the concentration of the population. The death rate is very low and is practically restricted to persons of unusual low general resistance in whom complications arise. Even then, the death rate is very, very low.

tion will become increasingly available but for some weeks and months will be available in comparatively small amounts. It is given in divided doses to younger children and in one dose for those 12 years of age and over. Since the vaccine may contain very small amounts of some egg substance because of the way it is produced, persons who may be sensitive to eggs should consult their family physician as to taking it.

The illness lasts only a few days followed by a rapid recovery and because of this fact there would not seem to be any indications for mass inoculation. However, since an epidemic might spread very rapidly persons vital to the welfare of the community should be vaccinated to continue essential services. This would include physicians, nurses, hospital personnel, policemen, firemen, teachers, workers in utilities, persons in vital official agencies, executives and supervisors in industry, and in some instances, groups

of persons working in a vital industry. As it requires from 4 to 6 months to develop the highest degree of protection from the vaccine, although some protection has developed by 2 to 3 weeks, the immediate vaccination of these essential groups of persons should be carried out soon. The vaccine has been found to be effective in about 70% of the persons and the protection lasts up to 12 months.

There is no vaccine available to be given at the Health Department. If the assistance of public health personnel is requested for any group buying their own vaccine, Dr. Michal states that she will be glad to advise and cooperate with these groups, including the ordering of their vaccine.

It was also brought out at this meeting that we need to continue to urge the entire public to be protected against poliomyelitis as this is still a much more serious disease than the Asiatic Flu.